1 Kevin A. Crisp (SBN 261023) E-mail: crispk@pepperlaw.com 2 PEPPER HAMILTON LLP 3 4 Park Plaza, Suite 1200 Irvine, California 92614 4 Tel: 949.567.3500 5 Fax: 949.863.0151 6 Attorneys for THE VANGUARD GROUP, INC.; 7 VANGUARD MARKETING CORP.; and 8 VANGUARD BROKERAGE SERVICES 9 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT 10 CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA 11 JULIAN A. POLLOK, Case No. 8:16-CV-00836 12 ADMINISTRATOR FOR THE Honorable: ESTATE OF EDWARD S. 13 SALKIN, Crtrm.: 14 Plaintiff, **DEFENDANTS THE VANGUARD** 15 **GROUP, INC., VANGUARD** V. 16 MARKETING CORPORATION, 17 THE VANGUARD GROUP, INC., AND VANGUARD BROKERAGE **VANGUARD MARKETING** SERVICES' NOTICE OF 18 CORP.; and VANGUARD REMOVAL OF ACTION 19 **BROKERAGE SERVICES and PURSUANT TO 28 U.S.C. §§ 1332,** DOES 1 through 50, inclusive, 1441, AND 1446 (DIVERSITY 20 **JURISDICTION**) Defendants. 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 #39163204 v1

NOTICE OF REMOVAL OF ACTION

TO THE CLERK OF THE ABOVE ENTITLED COURT:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1332, 1441, and 1446, The Vanguard Group, Inc., Vanguard Marketing Corporation, and Vanguard Brokerage Services ("Defendants") hereby remove to this Court the state court action described below.

- 1. On March 3, 2016, a civil action was commenced by a California Probate Code Section 850 Petition (the "Petition") in the Superior Court in the State of California in and for the County of Orange ("Orange County Superior Court") entitled *Julian A. Pollok, Administrator for the Estate of Edward S. Salkin (the "Plaintiff") vs. The Vanguard Group, Inc., Vanguard Marketing Corporation, and Vanguard Brokerage Services¹, and Does 1 through 50, inclusive, Case No. 30-2014-00733494-PR-PL-CJC (the "State Court Action"). A true and correct copy of the Petition is attached hereto as Exhibit 1.*
- Section 850 of property allegedly belonging to the Estate of Edward S. Salkin (the "Estate") as seeks recovery for the alleged diminution of value of that property. Petition, at Prayer for Relief, ¶¶ 1-2 (seeking alleged "difference in value of each stock, security and/or funds belonging to Dr. Salkin's estate" that purportedly occurred before Plaintiff obtained an order directing turnover of the deceased's investment funds). As the Petition itself makes clear, however, Defendants did in fact turnover all property allegedly belonging to the Estate over one year ago. *Id.* at ¶¶ 11-12. The property at issue had been subject to a dispute between Plaintiff and another person, and at one point a temporary restraining order was granted forbidding release of the funds. Pursuant to Defendants' contractual rights, it froze the funds pending an order of court or agreement by the disputing parties as to the

¹ Vanguard Brokerage Services is not a legal entity, but rather, is a division of Defendant Vanguard Marketing Corporation.

funds. Plaintiff agreed that Vanguard would not bear any liability with respect to the funds if the funds were turned over in response to a court order. Rather than immediately obtaining an order to release the funds, Plaintiff waited several months to obtain an order to turn over the property without ever requesting that the assets be invested more conservatively to, *e.g.*, guard against diminution of value. The Defendants promptly released the property over upon issuance of the order.

- 3. On April 6, 2016, a Notice of Hearing regarding the Petition was filed in the State Court Action. A true and correct of the Notice of Hearing is attached hereto as Exhibit 2.
- 4. Also on April 6, 2016, the Plaintiff's registered process server in California received, for the first time, the Petition and Notice of Hearing.

 Accordingly, this Petition for Removal is timely as it is filed within thirty (30) days of the receipt of the Petition by Defendants. See 28 U.S.C. §1446(b).
- 5. To the best of Defendants' knowledge, no further proceedings have taken place in the State Court Action regarding the Petition, other than the filing and/or service of the documents attached as Exhibits 1 and 2.
- 6. Removal jurisdiction under 28 U.S.C. §§ 1332, 1441, and 1446: This is a civil action that may be removed to this Court by Defendants pursuant to the provisions of 28 U.S.C. §§ 1332, 1441, and 1446, in that: (i) the matter in controversy exceeds the sum or value of \$75,000, exclusive of interest and costs; and (ii) at the time the Petition was filed, as well as at the time of this removal, each of the Defendants is a citizen of a state different from that of Plaintiff's citizenship, as shown in more detail below. *Thomas v. Artist Rights Enforcement Corp.*, 572 F. Supp. 2d 1194, 1197 (C.D. Cal. 2008) (A "Section 850 Petition" constitutes a "civil action . . . properly removable within meaning of 28 U.S.C. § 1441(b)").
 - 7. Matter in controversy exceeds \$75,000: In the Petition,

#39163204 v1

EXHIBIT 1

1 Howard M. Bidna, #78164 **ELECTRONICALLY FILED** Richard D. Keys, # 105901 Superior Court of California, 2 Bidna & Keys, APLC County of Orange 5120 Campus Drive 03/03/2016 at 09:54:00 AM 3 Newport Beach, CA 92660 Clerk of the Superior Court Tel: (949) 752-7030 By Laura Ojeda, Deputy Clerk Attorneys for Plaintiff Julian A. Pollok, 06/09/2016 Administrator with Will Annexed 5 for the Estate of Edward S. Salkin 09:00 AM: 6 C06 7 SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA 8 COUNTY OF ORANGE, CENTRAL JUSTICE CENTER Q 10 Case No. 30-2014-00733494-PR-PL-CJC **ESTATE OF:** 11 5120 Carrigus Drive - Newport Beach, CA 92880 - (949) 752-7030 EDWARD S. SALKIN, also known as, 12 EDWARD SALKIN 13 A Professional Law Corporation 14 Bidna & Keys 15 JULIAN A. POLLOK, ADMINISTRATOR PETITION FOR TURNOVER OF ESTATE WITH WILL ANNEXED FOR THE 16 ESTATE OF EDWARD S. SALKIN, PROPERTY PURSUANT TO PROBATE CODE § 850; AND FOR DOUBLE 17 DAMAGES AND ATTORNEYS FEES Petitioner. PURSUANT TO PROBATE CODE § 859 18 VS. 19 THE VANGUARD GROUP, INC., a Pennsylvania corporation; VANGUARD Hearing Date: 20 MARKETING CORPORATION, a Time: Pennsylvania corporation; VANGUARD Dept.: 21 BROKERAGE SERVICES, an unknown entity; and DOES 1 through 50, inclusive, 22 Respondents. 23 24 Petitioner alleges: 25 Jurisdiction and Venue 26 This petition arises under Probate Code § 850 in that Petitioner seeks the return of 1. 27 property belonging to the probate estate of Dr. Edward Salkin. The estate proceedings are pending 28 1 850 Petition E:\DOCS\415600\vanguard\850 petition wpd

before this Court, as the decedent was a resident of Orange County at the time of his death. As alleged below, the Respondents holding property of the estate are foreign corporations who have registered to do business in California and are therefore subject to the jurisdiction of this Court. This Court therefore has jurisdiction over the subject matter of the petition and the parties, and venue is proper in this Court.

The Parties

- 2. Petitioner Julian A. Pollok is the duly appointed Administrator with Will Annexed for the Estate of Edward S. Salkin, deceased, and brings this action in such capacity.
- 3. Respondents THE VANGUARD GROUP, INC. and VANGUARD MARKETING CORPORATION are Pennsylvania corporations which have registered as foreign corporations with the California Secretary of State to be qualified to do business in California, and have consented to the exercise of jurisdiction over them by the Courts of California.
- 4. Respondent VANGUARD BROKERAGE SERVICES is an entity whose exact form is unknown to Petitioner. VANGUARD BROKERAGE SERVICES does business on a regular basis in the State of California and has consented to the exercise of jurisdiction over it by the Courts of California
- 5. Respondent is informed and believes, and therefore alleges, that each of the defendants designated herein as a fictitiously named defendant, DOES 1 through 50, is in some manner responsible for the events and happenings herein referred to.
- 6. Edward Salkin ("Dr. Salkin") died on June 12, 2014. Dr. Salkin died testate, and his will has been admitted to probate in this Court. Petitioner was appointed by this Court as Administrator with Will Annexed for Dr. Salkin's estate and letters testamentary issued on March 16, 2015. Previously, on July 16, 2014, Petitioner was appointed by this Court as the Special Administrator for Dr. Salkin's estate.
- 7. Dr. Salkin was a resident of Orange County, California and his dealings with Respondents were in Orange County.

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Operative Facts

- 8. Amongst the assets held by Dr. Salkin at the time of his death were various stocks, securities, and funds held in accounts maintained by and with Respondents. Upon Dr. Salkin's death, such stocks, securities and funds became property of his probate estate. At the time of Dr. Salkin's death, the total value of such stocks, securities, and funds was approximately \$9,385,720.
- 9. On or about July 28, 2014, Petitioner (then acting as the Special Administrator for Dr. Salkin's estate) made demand on Respondents to transfer to Petitioner all of the stocks, securities and funds belonging to Dr. Salkin's estate so that Petitioner could control such assets and liquidate, sell or reinvest them as he deemed appropriate. At the time such demand was made, the value of the stocks, securities and funds belonging to Dr. Salkin's estate was approximately \$9,468,189.
- 10. Respondents thereafter refused to turn over any stocks, securities, or funds belonging to Dr. Salkin's estate in response to Petitioner's demands.
- 11. On March 11, 2015, Petitioner obtained a Probate Court order directing Respondents to turn over the stocks, securities and funds belonging to Dr. Salkin's estate.
- 12. Respondents did not allow Petitioner access to the stocks, securities and funds belonging to the estate until on or about March 19, 2015. Petitioner immediately demanded that Respondents liquidate the stocks, securities, and funds and deliver the proceeds to Petitioner in care of Petitioner's investment advisor, First Foundation. On April 9, 2015, Respondents paid over to Petitioner only the sum of \$8,558,131.73.
- 13. Respondents failed and refused to turn over to Petitioner the stocks, securities and funds belonging to Dr. Salkin's estate, or the value of same, when Petitioner demanded that they be turned over. The total value of the stocks, securities and funds that Respondents did eventually turn over to Petitioner was at least \$910,057 less than the total value of the stocks, securities and funds Respondents held when demand was made. Pursuant to Probate Code § 850, Respondents are required to return the full value of each stock, security and/or fund, in an amount to be determined according to proof, plus prejudgment interest.
- 14. Respondents refusal to turn over the property belonging to Dr. Salkin's estate was in bad faith as such term is defined in Probate Code § 859. Accordingly, Petitioner is entitled to, and

Bidna & Keys

therefore seeks, an award of double damages and an award of attorney fees in accordance with Probate Code § 859.

This is not an action arising from contract. Accordingly, the provisions of Civil Code 15. §§ 3294, et.seq. apply. In failing to honor Petitioner's demands for turn over of property belonging to Dr. Salkin's estate, Respondents acted with oppression, and malice and with the conscious disregard of Petitioner's rights. Accordingly, Petitioner is entitled to recover from Respondents punitive and exemplary damages in an amount to be determined by the trier of fact.

WHEREFORE, Petitioner pray for orders/judgment as follows:

- 1. For an order directing Respondents to turn over to Petitioner the difference in value of each stock, security and/or funds belonging to Dr. Salkin's estate which Respondents wrongfully refused to turn over at the time demand was made, in an amount to be determined according to proof, but not less than \$910,057, plus prejudgment interest.
- 2. For double damages in accordance with Probate Code § 859, of not less than \$1,820,114.
 - 3. For reasonable attorneys fees in accordance with Probate Code § 859.
- 4. For exemplary and punitive damages in accordance with Civil Code § 3294, in an amount to be determined in accordance with law.
 - 5. For costs of suit.
 - 6. For such other an further relief as the Court deems just, proper and equitable.

Dated: March 2, 2016

BIDNA & KEYS, APL

Howard M. Bidn

Richard D. Keys Attorneys for Petitioner Julian A. Pollok, Administrator with Will Annexed for the

Estate of Edward S. Salkin

VERIFICATION

I, Julian A. Pollok, declare:

I have read the foregoing Petition for Turnover of Estate Property Pursuant to Probate Code § 850; and for Double Damages and Attorneys Fees Pursuant to Probate Code § 859. The facts stated therein are true of my own knowledge, except for those facts stated on information and belief, and in such case, I believe them to be true.

I declare under penalty of perjury of the laws of California that the foregoing is true and correct.

Dated MARCH 2, 2016

Julian A. Pollok, Administrator with Will Annexed

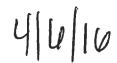
EXHIBIT 2

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ATTORNEY OR PARTY WITHOUT ATTORNEY OR RICHARD D. Keys, SBN: 10		FOR COURT USE ONLY	
Howard M. Bidna, SBN: 8		· .	
BIDNA & KEYS, APLC		l l	v
5120 Campus Drive, News		1	
TELEPHONE NO. 949-752-		8770	
	idnakeys.com		
ATTORNEY FOR (Name): Plaintiff			
SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA			
	c Center Drive West		
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CITY AND ZIP CODE. Santa An			
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W	DECEDENT TRUST (OTHER	
NOTICE OF HEARIN	NG-DECEDENT'S ESTATE OR TRUST	. CASE NUMBER: 30-2014-00733494-PR-PI	L-CJC
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Form Adopted for Mandatory Use Judicial Council of California DE-120 [Rev. July 1, 2005]

NOTICE OF HEARING—DECEDENT'S ESTATE OR TRUST (Probate—Decedents' Estates)

Probate Code §§851, 1211, 1215, 1216, 1230, 17100 www.courtinfo.co.gov



ESTATE OF (Name): IN THE MA	ATTER OF (Name):	CASE NUMBER:		
Edward S. Salkin also known as, Edward Salkin		30-2014-00733494-PR-PL-CJC		
	DECEDENT TRUST OTHER	4		
	CLERK'S CERTIFICATE OF POSTING			
 I certify that I am not a party to this cause. A copy of the foregoing Notice of Hearing— a. was posted at (address): 	-Decedent's Estate or Trust			
	#/i			
b. was posted on (date):				
Date:	Clerk, by	, Deputy		
	PROOF OF SERVICE BY MAIL *			
 I am over the age of 18 and not a party to the series of 18 and not a party to the series of 18 and not a party to the series of 120 Campus Drive, Newport Beach 		e county where the mailing occurred.		
 I served the foregoing Notice of Hearing—Decedent's Estate or Trust on each person named below by enclosing a copy in an envelope addressed as shown below AND 				
a. depositing the sealed envelope on the date and at the place shown in item 4 with the United States Postal Service with the postage fully prepaid.				
business practices. I am readily mailing. On the same day that of	on and mailing on the date and at the place si familiar with this business's practice for collec- orrespondence is placed for collection and ma ad States Postal Service in a sealed envelope	cting and processing correspondence for ailing, it is deposited in the ordinary		
4. a. Date mailed: 4/4/16 b.	Place mailed (city, state): Newport Bea	ich, CA		
5. I served with the Notice of Hearing—Notice.	Decedent's Estate or Trust a copy of the petit	ion or other document referred to in the		
I declare under penalty of penjury under the law	s of the State of California that the foregoing is	s frue and correct.		
Date: 4/4/16				
Kristi Lothian				
(TYPE OR PRINT NAME OF PERSON COMPLETING THIS FORM) (SIGNATURE OF PERSON COMPLETING THIS FORM)				
NAME AND ADDRESS OF EACH PERSON TO WHOM NOTICE WAS MAILED				
Name of person served	Address (number, street, cit	y, state, and zip code)		
Corp Service Co which will dba 2 CSC-Lawyers Inc Service	710 Gateway Oaks Dr., Ste. 150N acramento, CA 95833 (Agent for T	he Vanguard Group, Inc.)		
	710 Gateway Oaks Dr., Ste. 150N acramento, CA 95833 (Agent for Var	nguard Marketing Corp)		
3.				
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form DE-120(MA)/GC-020(MA), for the *Do not use this form for proof of personal	nis purpose.) service. You may use form DE-120(P) to pro	ve personal service of this Notice.		

Page 2 of 2

1 Howard M. Bidna, #78164 **ELECTRONICALLY FILED** Richard D. Keys, # 105901 Superior Court of California, 2 Bidna & Keys, APLC County of Orange 5120 Campus Drive 03/03/2016 at 09:54:00 AM 3 Newport Beach, CA 92660 Clerk of the Superior Court Tel: (949) 752-7030 By Laura Ojeda, Deputy Clerk 4 Attorneys for Plaintiff Julian A. Pollok, 06/09/2016 Administrator with Will Annexed 5 for the Estate of Edward S. Salkin 09:00 AM: 6 C06 7 SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA 9 COUNTY OF ORANGE, CENTRAL JUSTICE CENTER 10 Case No. 30-2014-00733494-PR-PL-CJC **ESTATE OF:** 11 1120 Carryous Drive - Newport Beach, CA 92660 - (949) 752-7030 EDWARD S. SALKIN, also known as, 12 **EDWARD SALKIN** 13 A Professional Law Corporation 14 Bidna & Keys 15 JULIAN A. POLLOK, ADMINISTRATOR PETITION FOR TURNOVER OF ESTATE WITH WILL ANNEXED FOR THE 16 ESTATE OF EDWARD S. SALKIN, PROPERTY PURSUANT TO PROBATE CODE § 850; AND FOR DOUBLE DAMAGES AND ATTORNEYS FEES 17 Petitioner. PURSUANT TO PROBATE CODE § 859 18 VS. 19 THE VANGUARD GROUP, INC., a Pennsylvania corporation; VANGUARD Hearing Date: 20 MARKETING CORPORATION, a Time: Pennsylvania corporation; VANGUARD Dept.: 21 BROKERAGE SERVICES, an unknown entity; and DOES 1 through 50, inclusive, 22 Respondents. 23 24 Petitioner alleges: 25 Jurisdiction and Venue 26 This petition arises under Probate Code § 850 in that Petitioner seeks the return of 1. 27 property belonging to the probate estate of Dr. Edward Salkin. The estate proceedings are pending 28 1 850 Petition

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- 2. Petitioner Julian A. Pollok is the duly appointed Administrator with Will Annexed for the Estate of Edward S. Salkin, deceased, and brings this action in such capacity.
- 3. Respondents THE VANGUARD GROUP, INC. and VANGUARD MARKETING CORPORATION are Pennsylvania corporations which have registered as foreign corporations with the California Secretary of State to be qualified to do business in California, and have consented to the exercise of jurisdiction over them by the Courts of California.
- 4. Respondent VANGUARD BROKERAGE SERVICES is an entity whose exact form is unknown to Petitioner. VANGUARD BROKERAGE SERVICES does business on a regular basis in the State of California and has consented to the exercise of jurisdiction over it by the Courts of California
- 5. Respondent is informed and believes, and therefore alleges, that each of the defendants designated herein as a fictitiously named defendant, DOES 1 through 50, is in some manner responsible for the events and happenings herein referred to.
- 6. Edward Salkin ("Dr. Salkin") died on June 12, 2014. Dr. Salkin died testate, and his will has been admitted to probate in this Court. Petitioner was appointed by this Court as Administrator with Will Annexed for Dr. Salkin's estate and letters testamentary issued on March 16, 2015. Previously, on July 16, 2014, Petitioner was appointed by this Court as the Special Administrator for Dr. Salkin's estate.
- 7. Dr. Salkin was a resident of Orange County, California and his dealings with Respondents were in Orange County.

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Operative Facts

- 8. Amongst the assets held by Dr. Salkin at the time of his death were various stocks, securities, and funds held in accounts maintained by and with Respondents. Upon Dr. Salkin's death, such stocks, securities and funds became property of his probate estate. At the time of Dr. Salkin's death, the total value of such stocks, securities, and funds was approximately \$9,385,720.
- 9. On or about July 28, 2014, Petitioner (then acting as the Special Administrator for Dr. Salkin's estate) made demand on Respondents to transfer to Petitioner all of the stocks, securities and funds belonging to Dr. Salkin's estate so that Petitioner could control such assets and liquidate, sell or reinvest them as he deemed appropriate. At the time such demand was made, the value of the stocks, securities and funds belonging to Dr. Salkin's estate was approximately \$9,468,189.
- 10. Respondents thereafter refused to turn over any stocks, securities, or funds belonging to Dr. Salkin's estate in response to Petitioner's demands.
- 11. On March 11, 2015, Petitioner obtained a Probate Court order directing Respondents to turn over the stocks, securities and funds belonging to Dr. Salkin's estate.
- 12. Respondents did not allow Petitioner access to the stocks, securities and funds belonging to the estate until on or about March 19, 2015. Petitioner immediately demanded that Respondents liquidate the stocks, securities, and funds and deliver the proceeds to Petitioner in care of Petitioner's investment advisor, First Foundation. On April 9, 2015, Respondents paid over to Petitioner only the sum of \$8,558,131.73.
- 13. Respondents failed and refused to turn over to Petitioner the stocks, securities and funds belonging to Dr. Salkin's estate, or the value of same, when Petitioner demanded that they be turned over. The total value of the stocks, securities and funds that Respondents did eventually turn over to Petitioner was at least \$910,057 less than the total value of the stocks, securities and funds Respondents held when demand was made. Pursuant to Probate Code § 850, Respondents are required to return the full value of each stock, security and/or fund, in an amount to be determined according to proof, plus prejudgment interest.
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therefore seeks, an award of double damages and an award of attorney fees in accordance with Probate Code § 859.

15. This is not an action arising from contract. Accordingly, the provisions of Civil Code §§ 3294, et.seq. apply. In failing to honor Petitioner's demands for turn over of property belonging to Dr. Salkin's estate, Respondents acted with oppression, and malice and with the conscious disregard of Petitioner's rights. Accordingly, Petitioner is entitled to recover from Respondents punitive and exemplary damages in an amount to be determined by the trier of fact.

WHEREFORE, Petitioner pray for orders/judgment as follows:

- For an order directing Respondents to turn over to Petitioner the difference in value 1. of each stock, security and/or funds belonging to Dr. Salkin's estate which Respondents wrongfully refused to turn over at the time demand was made, in an amount to be determined according to proof, but not less than \$910,057, plus prejudgment interest.
- 2. For double damages in accordance with Probate Code § 859, of not less than \$1,820,114.
 - 3. For reasonable attorneys fees in accordance with Probate Code § 859.
- 4. For exemplary and punitive damages in accordance with Civil Code § 3294, in an amount to be determined in accordance with law.
 - 5. For costs of suit.
 - 6. For such other an further relief as the Court deems just, proper and equitable.

Dated: March 2, 2016

BIDNA & KEYS, APL

Howard M. Bidn

Richard D. Keys Attorneys for Petitioner Julian A. Pollok, Administrator with Will Annexed for the

Estate of Edward S. Salkin

VERIFICATION

I, Julian A. Pollok, declare:

I have read the foregoing Petition for Turnover of Estate Property Pursuant to Probate Code § 850; and for Double Damages and Attorneys Fees Pursuant to Probate Code § 859. The facts stated therein are true of my own knowledge, except for those facts stated on information and belief, and in such case, I believe them to be true.

I declare under penalty of perjury of the laws of California that the foregoing is true and correct.

Dated MARCH 2,2016

Julian A. Pollok, Administrator with Will Annexed for the Estate of Edward S. Salkin